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6-87

# HOW TO RECOGNIZE HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS



JUN - 4 1971



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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INFORMATION CANADA  
OTTAWA, 1971  
Cat. No. RG23-1071

# CAUTION! WARNING! DANGER!

On the highway, there are dangers and the warning signs are clear.

In the home, there are dangers in everyday household products. They need warning signs too.

Bleaches, cleansers, floor polishes, and the like are necessary. But to do the job, they need chemical ingredients. They can injure people if misused.

There are more than 40,000 poisonings reported in Canada in one year. Eighty per cent are among children under five years old. Over 16,000 involve household substances.

Beginning June 1, 1971, household chemical products, from bleaches to antifreeze, will be labelled to warn you of the dangers. Under the Hazardous Products Act, they must carry symbols to tell you the *kind* of hazard and the *degree* of hazard. Turn the page to see how they work.

## FOUR SYMBOLS TELL THE KINDS OF HAZARDS:



**POISON**



**FLAMMABLE**



**EXPLOSIVE**



**CORROSIVE**

# LIKE TRAFFIC SIGNS

THREE SHAPES TELL THE DEGREES OF HAZARD:



**CAUTION**



**WARNING**



**DANGER**

PUT THEM TOGETHER AND THEY LOOK LIKE THIS:



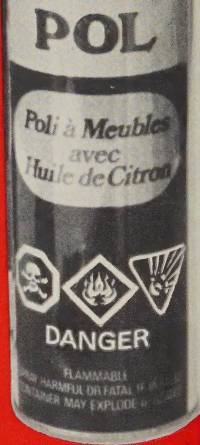
**DANGER**  
**POISON**



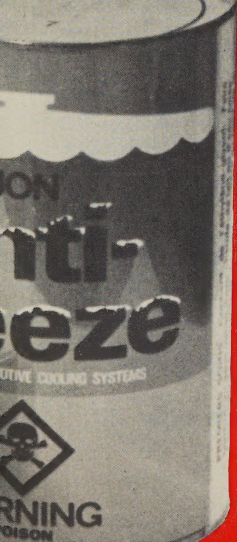
**WARNING**  
**FLAMMABLE**



**CAUTION**  
**EXPLOSIVE**







## WHAT THE DEGREES OF HAZARD MEAN:



### CAUTION

Triangle. Like a traffic yield sign. Means: could cause minor injuries if misused.



### WARNING

Diamond. Like a traffic slow sign. Means: could cause serious injury if misused.



### DANGER

Octagon. Like a traffic stop sign. Means: could kill you if misused.



Starting June 1, 1971, the container of every hazardous household product will give more information to consumers. It will tell you, in English and French

- the hazards in symbols and words
- the name of the hazardous chemical in the product
- what to beware of
- first aid treatment

Learn the symbols. Handle hazardous household products with care. Prevent needless injuries.



**NOTE:** If someone is poisoned, have the container with you when you phone the Poison Control Centre or your doctor. Take the container with you when you go there. Keep the phone numbers and addresses of your doctor, the nearest Poison Control Centre and the fire department by your phone. Show them to your baby-sitter.



## **CHECK:**

Do you have products in your home now that are hazardous? If so, label them to protect your family. Use the tear-out symbols that best apply. Stick them on the containers.

Don't store these products in a cupboard under the sink or in a place where children can reach them.

Be wary of hazardous products. Teach your family the meaning of the symbols. It may save a life.











Canada Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, 1971  
Ron Basford, Minister